

The Granite Towers

A Community Magazine for
Lanlivery and Luxulyan



April & May 2021

EDITORIAL



April and May – two of the loveliest months of the year, and I welcome you to this April/May edition of our community magazine. This time last year brought glorious weather, helping to make the lockdown more bearable, and certainly for those of us lucky enough to

be living in this beautiful county of ours, and even more especially if we could walk out into the lanes and fields which were bursting with fresh green growth, blossom and bloom. The hedgerows were alight with gorse, and daffodils abounded. May we have more of the same this year! No wonder the poet, Robert Browning wished, “Oh to be in England/Now that April’s there”, while living in Northern Italy, because of the tiny, remembered details of waking and seeing “that the lowest boughs and the brushwood sheaf/Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny leaf” while a chaffinch sings in an orchard, “In England – now!!”

That same sharp sense of the vividness of the present is in Wordsworth’s famous poem “Daffodils”, where he describes wandering as lonely as a cloud, until the glorious sight of countless daffodils forces him to gaze so hard that their image, “a host of golden daffodils”, is impressed upon his memory. Little thinking at the time, “what wealth the show to me had brought”, he is often to remember this experience much later, when “They flash upon that inward eye/ Which is the bliss of solitude”, a marvellous way of describing the imagination, so important to poets like him, and necessary for all of us – “And then my heart with pleasure fills/And dances with the daffodils”. Pleasure, joy and comfort are brought to him in this way, even many years later.

I think both poets are talking about the power of the imagination to bring the past into the present so that we can relive lovely experiences, particularly in Nature, such as these – or, as Wordsworth famously called it, “Emotion recollected in tranquillity”.

This spring has certainly seen a superabundance of daffodils. My garden has been alight with them - the best year ever, it seems, and I hope some will carry on blooming into May. I am looking forward to having some brilliant memories of them next year. In fact, it is essential for us now, more than ever, to be able to think about the

good and wholesome, and the beautiful and inspirational things in life, in order to combat the trials of the pandemic, lockdowns, political unrest and so much more, which are touching people everywhere in the world. The news media will always be full of disasters and human turmoil, but we need resilience, hope and beauty for balance.

We are all longing for restrictions to be lifted, and for things to “get back to normal”: you only have to read the reports from activity groups in this magazine. It may be, though, a normal with a difference. It could transpire that we shall have learnt some useful lessons from this year – certainly in medicine, science, sociology and much more. One thing is certain: although it has brought out the worst in some cases, it has also engendered the best, with individuals and communities reaching the highest pinnacles of human behaviour and community service.

Have a very Happy Easter

Verna



Here’s a recipe you might like to use to make a celebratory drink with family and/or friends after restrictions are lifted! It’s easy to make, even easier to drink, and it’s fun!

It brings back lovely memories of sitting outside in the bright sunshine in the garden of our French friends when my husband and I were on holiday in France many years ago.

CHAMPAGNE SOUP

1 bottle of champagne or sparkling wine
1 ladle/half a cup of lime or lemon juice
1 ladle/half a cup of Cointreau
1 ladle/half a cup of sugar syrup

Mix in a chilled punch bowl. Cheers!

Be sure to chill your champagne or sparkling wine in advance. For best results, also chill the salad or punch bowl for serving for about an hour. After chilling, mix ingredients above in the salad or punch bowl and serve immediately. For added fun try different fruit syrups or liqueurs with the champagne and simple syrup, such as peach, raspberry, melon, or orange!

Et voilà mes amies – soupe de champagne! Salut!

Verna

LUXULYAN FEAST WEEK SUNDAY 13 JUNE TO SATURDAY 19 JUNE 2021

The Luxulyan Feast Week committee have worked hard to ensure that there will be a Feast Week this year. We have had to work within the expected government Covid restrictions and adapt accordingly. There have had to be changes to our usual week but focussing on the positives, this is the plan:

Scarecrow competition with the theme 'Local Heroes' (entries in place by 11 June). Entry forms available 1 May from The Village Shop

Sunflower growing competition Seeds and entry forms available from The Village Shop from 1 March.

Cryptic Quiz Sheet Available from The Village Shop from 1 May.

Sunday 13 June	Feast Sunday Service
Monday 14 June	Feast Bingo
Tuesday 15 June	Feast Walk
Wednesday 16 June	To be confirmed
Thursday 17 June	Vintage Harmony and cream tea afternoon
Friday 18 June	Airsoft Thunder park taster
Saturday 19 June	am Family Treasure Hunt pm The George Rundle Memorial Cup Quiz night – all proceeds from this event will be donated to Mount Edgecumbe Hospice.
Saturday 26 June	Luxulyan Carnival (we are hoping that restrictions will be lifted) This activity may be subject to change of date. Sea Shanty evening at the Kings Arms.

Venues will be confirmed by the beginning of June and all activities will be subject to Covid restrictions in place at the time. Updates will be posted on the Feast Week, Kings Arms, Church, Luxulyan Community and Village Shop Facebook pages.

A comprehensive booklet with all activities, venues and times, scarecrow trail and booking instructions will be distributed to as many houses as possible at the beginning of June.

Any local businesses wishing to advertise in the booklet are asked to contact Shelley on famporter58@gmail.com. Cost will be £5 for A7 size advert and pdf copy will be required by 17 May. The committee are also interested in hearing from anyone who would like to offer a raffle prize or prizes for the activities. Thanking you in advance!

Here's to a happy Feast Week 2021!

Shelley Porter

* * * * *

GRANITE TOWERS MAGAZINE

As we are slowly moving out of lockdown, we have felt it possible to print a hard copy on this occasion. Should you not wish to receive one, preferring to access the e-version in future, please let us know.

The e-version (all in colour) is now available on the following websites:

Granite Towers www.granitetowers.co.uk
Lanlivery Parish Council
Lanlivery Church
Luxulyan Parish Council (link)
Luxulyan Church

The Granite Towers Committee

ADVERTISING

Please note that due to increased costs, we have had to raise the prices for advertising; when you renew, large adverts will cost £40 and small adverts £25 for six issues per year. Please see contact details in the box on page 21.

Please send copy for the next edition of **"THE GRANITE TOWERS" JUNE JULY 2021 EDITION** to the editor, Verna Roberts, by **MAY 10 2021**. EMAIL ADDRESS for Granite Towers copy: granitetowersluxlan@gmail.com Photos for front or back page to Ellen McConnell ellen.mcconnell@hotmail.co.uk
See page 29 for all deadline dates.

LUXULYAN NEW VOTING DIVISIONS

As you know, Cornwall Council's divisions have increased in size because there will be only 87 Cornwall Councillors elected this **6th May 2021**.

Luxulyan Parish has been split into two wards.

Polling district ELN2 (Lockengate Ward)

- Residents in the northern Lockengate Ward of Luxulyan Parish will vote for a Cornwall Councillor for the new **Roche & Bugle Electoral Division**.
- Residents in the northern Lockengate Ward of Luxulyan Parish will vote for only three (3) Parish Councillors.

Polling district ELN1 (Luxulyan Ward)

- Residents in the southern Luxulyan Ward of Luxulyan Parish will vote for a Cornwall Councillor for the new **Lostwithiel & Lanreath Electoral Division**.
- Residents in the southern Luxulyan Ward of Luxulyan Parish will vote for only seven (7) Parish Councillors.

As you see, the election of Luxulyan Parish Councillors will change slightly but the total number of Parish Councillors will remain at ten (10).



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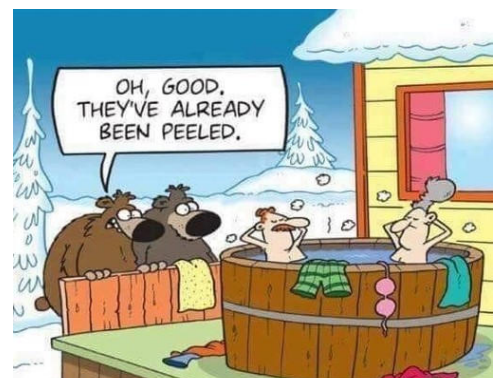
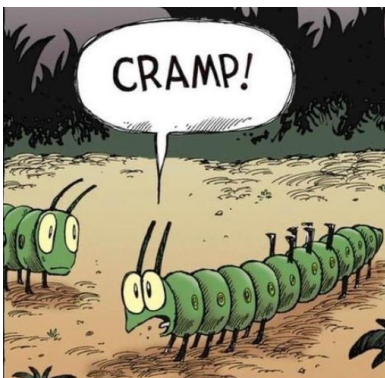
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ENDINGS and BEGINNINGS

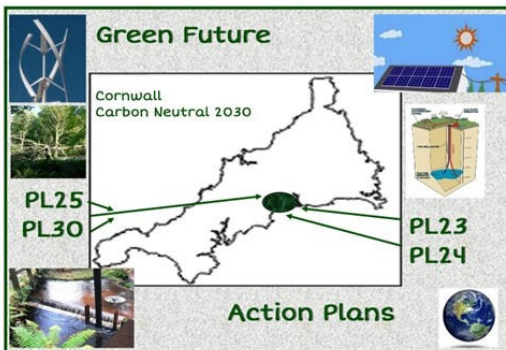
Caroline Stephenson reflects on 12 months of lockdowns and how to proceed from here



If you are one who loves crosswords or quizzes, then I doubt you will need telling who this image belongs to. It depicts the Roman God Janus, looking back and looking forward. His main responsibilities were to oversee beginnings and endings, plus gates, transitions, time, duality, doorways, passages and frames! Oh, and just in case he had a spare moment, he also presided over times of war and peace.

I am thinking about Janus for many reasons. First, because we are just on the edge of a big transition back to 'normality' post Covid. But over the past year perhaps some of us feel there is quite a bit that we don't want to see happening again. If you remember, normality meant mega traffic on our roads, and that is just one example of many. It also meant thoughtless abuse of the natural world of this planet e.g. animals, birds, rivers, oceans and much more. Numerous TV programmes we may have seen have illustrated that we need to live more responsibly. More effort has to be put into managing our waste, re-cycling and if possible, reducing our personal and business carbon footprints. I recently found an amazing article (see the link below) about the Orkneys and their achievements along this path, many of which could be copied in Cornwall. It has fired me up! <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20190327-the-tiny-islands-leading-the-way-in-hydrogen-power>

Cornwall Council is attempting to take us forward in the right direction, but it is never going to be enough to set a highly ambitious target, of 2030 for the county to be carbon neutral and just wait for people to wake up. We need practical, clear suggestions as to actions we can all take to move forward right now. Since Christmas I have been writing a small booklet of 'Green Action' possibilities for this area, starting in Fowey, then around our villages of Luxulyan and Lanlivery with the leats and the granite. There is also Par Harbour, china clay, mines, lithium, the hot rocks at Eden, even a hydrogen train and something called a 'kite mill'! The booklet is going to be available to download free of charge on my website, www.themeadowbarns.co.uk/green_campaigns/ with a link for people to make donations towards feasibility studies.



The green action pages are part of a much bigger book, also Janus-like, looking back at our local history and dedicated to that famous man of Fowey, Joseph Austen Treffry. I am hoping that these will be available to buy from the end of April and am delighted that we already have a number of partner organisations (hotels, hostleries, libraries, shops etc.) offering to display and sell, with a proportion of the money raised going into the campaigns. If you run a business where you could display and sell some books, please get in touch via my email - cjs@betterways2learn.co.uk. Otherwise just keep an eye on the web page for further information.

Last but not least, if you haven't time or desire to read, then why not plan yourself a visit to hear the stories performed at an outdoor show? The Tiny Theatre of Treffry will open in mid-April, for groups of just 6 friends or family members initially and - when permitted later in the summer - a maximum of 12. We think this is probably the smallest outdoor theatre in the world! And one of the safest, most enjoyable post- Covid activities for any group.

To finish, here are a couple of comments from our growing list of supporters: -

*"Congratulations, the book looks wonderful. It is really informative and engaging. We would love to have a copy to add to the collections here at **Kresen Kernow**"*

"I really welcome this celebration of Cornish history and culture, but especially the link with climate change actions. We have a greater chance of changing our ways if young people stand up and take a lead, through just this type of educational initiative."

Edwina Hannaford, Cornwall Council cabinet member for Climate Change and Neighbourhoods

Caroline Stephenson

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EMAIL FROM OXFORD

In years to come when looking back on the past year, I feel I'll look at the enforced time spent at home as a time of productive procrastination. Basically, filling my days with everything and anything imaginable and very little or nothing to do with work. Time is filled with cleaning my spaces, both mental and physical, where half-completed projects accumulate, lying unfulfilled and abandoned until I am in need of an excuse to avoid some other task. I'm not someone who professes not to have anything to do...I can always come up with something, even if it's something I'm not particularly interested in.

You sometimes hear people talk about being an 80:20 or similar, basically they get 80% through a task then find themselves unable or willing to go the extra 20% to complete it. I can't quite decide on my ratio as it changes depending on the type of task, however, recently I have been trying to focus in on the completing part with a varied degree of success.

One of my current projects is the refurbishment of a cast iron and glass cold frame which I was given a year ago. I've cleaned and painted the metal frame and am gradually replacing the glass panes. Most were ok, but some I've had to source and cut new panes to fit. I've been pleasantly surprised at how easy it is to cut glass, all be it after purchasing a glass cutter and watching a You tube tutorial. Of a total 32 panes, I now have about 20 left to putty into place, a skill I'm learning 'on the job' and hoping to get a bit quicker at. It's been a process to reach the current place but with the return of spring it seemed the right time to engage with that last 20% of effort for this project.

Regardless of all the self reflection and ponderings of what was and has been, springtime does help to shift our attention forward. The emerging leaves and blossom; the lengthening days, all a promise of the bounty to come. And so I find myself pondering how to develop my patch of garden this year. Of all the vegetables I trialled last year, not many were particularly successful. From a bug's perspective it was a great place to come for breakfast, lunch

and dinner, they managed to munch most of it before I had a look in. I feel I need to embrace the use of flowers and companion planting schemes much more this year.

The rediscovery of garden magazines I've had for 20 years has certainly whetted my appetite for adventures in gardening, along with watching some of the many gardening programmes. I find the programmes where they get a team to redesign and tidy up a plain or overgrown patch especially satisfying. I understand 20-year-old magazines are a bit crazy to have kept in storage, however, with garden magazines, the tips and tricks very rarely become outdated or obsolete.

One comment made on one of the gardening shows recently was along the lines of 'Watch out for the spiders'. Now if any of you know me quite well, you may know I'm not a particular fan of the eight-legged creepy crawlies. I can 'handle' the little ones, as in the tiny 'money' spiders, and equally I'm OK with the daddy long leg ones both inside and outside varieties. But anything that has an element of chunky and dark about it...uh noooo, you can keep them! So, it is with an element of, 'Don't think about it' that I tend to do my gardening. If I do find any of the larger ones outside there is quite likely to be a shudder and speedy retreat on my part, before negotiating how best to proceed.

From the spider front, winter is quite a 'safe' time in that they retreat or die off. So, spring and the warmer days tend to have a sense of, 'Here we go again', when I start to see the odd one scamper away to a corner. Oh, if that were only the case when I find the larger ones! There's never a wee scamper or hint of a toe beforehand, it seems like they almost jump out, 'ta da', followed by synchronised screaming and running around...at least that's what I'm doing and what it would appear the spider is trying to do.

Oh dear! You might imagine the scene when I reached to take my warm winter coat down a few days ago, only to find one of the big-bummed ones sitting on the hood! Inside! Needless to say, it found itself evicted to a bush on the other side of the drive. Phew! I know this species (black widow type, though I think the fake ones as it wasn't totally

black and glossy) can live outside as I've seen the odd one dangling around the door frame.

So, moving into spring proper I feel my vigilance for what's currently in my surroundings going up a notch. All right, it's basically because I'm on semi-alert for spiders, but it does make one more aware of changes happening around us, as well as other creatures that share the same space.

Wishing you all a wonderfully exciting season of discovery and planning for the future.

Until next time.

Katy :) x

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Hedgehog Statistics

Length: 15-30cm

Tail: 1-2cm

Weight: up to 2kg

Average lifespan: 2-3 years

Conservation status

Protected in the UK under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981. Priority Species under the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework.

IUCN Red List for British Mammals - **vulnerable to extinction.**

To reverse the rapid decline of hedgehogs, Cornwall Wildlife Trust is leading Operation Hedgehog, a coordinated effort to take hedgehog-saving, county-wide action.

Who is involved?

Operation Hedgehog is being delivered in partnership with Cornwall Mammal Group, Prickles and Paws Hedgehog Rescue and the University of Exeter.

What are the aims?

We will...

- identify the whereabouts and sizes of hedgehog populations through initiatives such as expert and citizen science surveys
- educate and work with land managers, developers and policy makers to protect hedgehogs when planning new developments
- support volunteer community groups to spread the word and build homes for hedgehogs

Challenges for hedgehogs in Cornwall, warm winters mean that hedgehogs that are meant to hibernate between November and April are not hibernating for long enough to be in good condition for the spring breeding season. Please let us know when you see or see evidence of your first hedgehog. Your information will help build a picture of hedgehogs' lives in Cornwall.

Thank you.

1. Operation Hedgehog Luxulyan and Lanlivery Facebook.

2. amandajpenk@gmail.com

3. ORKS app enables you to record wildlife sightings in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, UK with GPS coordinates, details of your sighting and photos. Your records are fed directly into the Online Recording Kernow and Scilly (ORKS) website where you can manage your own records and explore what others have seen. Your sightings will provide vital information for conservation and research of wildlife and habitats.

Operation Hedgehog Luxulyan and Lanlivery has surveying equipment to find out about our local hedgehogs. Do get in touch if you would like to borrow it and survey your area for a week.

Amanda Penk

LUXULYAN OVER FIFTIES

Depending on when the lockdown is lifted, we plan to resume our lunches at The King's Arms, Bridges. Let's hope we'll be seeing each other in May or June.

We meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 12 noon.

We send our very best wishes to landlord Wayne, who has undergone a serious operation.

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Wednesday	8.30-10.30/	2.30-5.30
Thursday	8.30-10.30/	2.30-5.30
Friday	8.30-10.30/	2.30-5.30
Saturday	9am-3pm	
Sunday	CLOSED	



Location: Redmoor School,
Lanlivery. PL305BT
01208 872973

FRIENDS OF LUXULYAN VALLEY (FOLV)

Our programme for the next few months will be dependent on Covid restrictions, so people should check the website: www.luxulyanvalley.co.uk, noticeboards and newsletter.

Wednesday 21st April at 7.30 by Zoom: Malcolm Gould will show old films from the days of English China Clay. Please contact folvmembership@gmail.com to receive an invite.

Saturday 22nd May at 2pm: Wildflower walk in the valley with Joan Farmer. Meet at Black Hill car park. Please either email or phone, to leave contact details in case we need to limit numbers. joanfarmer38@gmail.com or 01726 852603

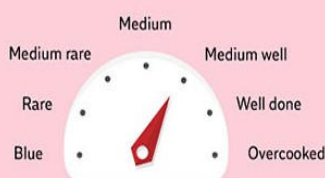
Saturday 12th June at 7.30 pm in Ladock. An evening guided tour to spot beavers and see their effect on the landscape. **Members only.** max. 20 people. Reduced fee of £5
Booking essential with Tracy at tracyclimber@hotmail.com

Joan Farmer

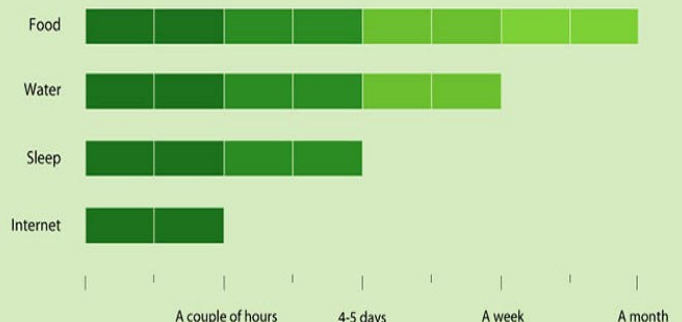
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The Village Hall and our activities meet the requirements needed to be Covid secure but to maintain this we are unable at present to accommodate any casual visitors.

If you are interested in joining the class, please have a chat first with **Wendy Lewis**, tel. 07852112539.

(We are, of course, unable to meet during this current and any subsequent lockdown situations, but are hopeful of resuming after May 19th. Members will all be contacted as soon as there is more clarity .)



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THE VILLAGE SHOP

Martin and I have had a fantastic time since taking over The Village Shop and Post Office in October and would like to thank everyone for all the support and good wishes.

The summer is coming, and we are doing our best to make the shop a beautiful feature in the village. We hope you may have noticed the decluttered shop front and new lighting inside and out. The cosmetic changes are not the only changes we have implemented; in January we installed our coffee machine! So, whether you are on the school run or walking down the Saints' Way, why not pop in and treat yourself to a hot drink? We have also extended our hot food range, all freshly cooked in store and available daily from 8.30am. We advise ordering in advance to avoid disappointment.

We now offer a paper delivery service covering Luxulyan, Trethurgy, Bowling Green, Treskill and Lanlivery for a small delivery charge of 40p. Small amounts of groceries can be delivered also.

We have several other projects that we will be carrying out over the summer and look forward to seeing you all over the coming months. If you aren't already following us on Facebook, take a look, as we update this with all the latest offers and events.

Kay, Martin, and the Team



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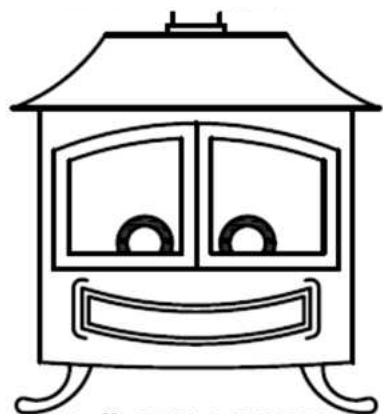
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BOOK GROUP



So, we haven't been able to meet up for a year, and it seems a very long time, but I hope you have been able to read your way through those piles of books on your bookshelves and bedside tables; books that we always intend to read, but haven't yet got round to and "save for later".

The book I'm reading at the moment is "The Thursday Murder Club" by Richard Osman. The front cover tells me that Kate Atkinson says, "It's such a beacon of Pleasure". Ian Rankin comments, "It's so smart and funny. Deplorably good". Sunday Times, "Gripping". And I have to say that it is a brilliant and hilarious book; a brilliant and unusual read. I haven't been able to put it down. It's a real page-turner – and that's just what you want during lockdown. I'll be recommending it to everybody.

Meanwhile, once we are allowed to meet in person, we'll be resurrecting Book Group at Trethevey on Thursday evenings once every few weeks as usual.

Do keep in touch by ringing me on 01566248159.

Kay Roberts

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PILATES

My Pilates class will be running every Thursday from 2 – 3 pm in Luxulyan Village Hall as before, when lockdown lifts. Please contact me on **07711 856242** for any more details.

Steph Thomas

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LUXULYAN AND LANLIVERY WI REPORT

Here we are again, still keeping our WI together, despite the "present difficulties" – to put it euphemistically! Members are still in contact by telephone, and those who are online can email. The WI website provides plenty of information and the WI Facebook page is also useful. The possibility of having another of our Zoom meetings has been mentioned!

On Wednesday March 10th, our members, with members from surrounding WIs, were invited to a Zoom meeting by the members of Bodmin WI, the aptly named "Bodmin Gaolbirds". A few of us joined in, and it was fun to see who would pop up on the Zoom screen. The focus of the evening was to hear a very interesting talk about the new Hall For Cornwall, which has been undergoing a transformation and should be opening in June. It made for an interesting experimental evening.

The committee managed to communicate to make some decisions: on the payment of members' subscription for this year; to decide on voting for the NFWI Board of Trustees; and the date of our AGM.

If you think that the WI is just cookery and craft, you'd be very wrong. It has a proud history of working successfully at national level by speaking out and demanding change and improvements in the law, social matters and health, to name but a few. Following the tragic and terrible murder of Sarah Everard and the worldwide outpouring of revulsion to violence against women, on Friday 19 March 2021, the National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI) called on all WI members to show their support and solidarity with all women who have experienced abuse and harassment. This was to take place between 6 pm - 7 pm, when WI members were asked to safely join the 'WI Walk with Women', in accordance with social-distancing rules. Together with members of their household, in their support bubble or with a fellow WI member within their local area, WI members were asked to join in by walking down their street, using candles, lanterns or their phone's flashlight, to show their support. Of course, this had to be carried out in accordance with Government guidelines on social distancing, and within Covid-19 restrictions.

We shall all be watching to see what will happen with the huge problem of violence against women.

Returning to concerns closer to home, Amanda Penk continues helping the hedgehog campaign, and keeping us up to date with developments in "Operation Hedgehog" and "Prickles and Paws", as you will see in her article on page 9.

We were all very concerned to learn of Jean

Linfoot's visit to hospital after a fall and wish her a speedy recovery.

Congratulations to Margaret Trethewey who was 90 on Saturday March 20th. A resounding HAPPY BIRTHDAY to you!

Jean and Margaret have been loyal and enthusiastic members for many years.

Joan Blackshire organised the sending of Easter cards to every member, with an information slip inside, which included the fact that our next meeting is planned for June 30th. This will be our AGM. Members will be notified of the time and place when more is known about what restrictions may be in place.

Visitors and new members are always welcome. Please ring Jackie Russell on 07925966696 if you would like further information.

Verna Roberts



BONJOUR MES AMIS!

Every Tuesday five local ladies have been going to Wadebridge where they pretend to be French for a morning. Under the guidance of our tutor Christine, a French lady married to a local man, we take it in turns to speak (in French of course) about what we have done in the past week, what we have read or seen etc. International affairs, especially relating to French culture, are debated.

Christine generally gives us a handout about an aspect of French life or a personality- some more controversial than others. We have the opportunity to read aloud, with gentle correction of our pronunciation where necessary, and to explain and paraphrase what we have read.

Sometimes the dreaded word 'dictée' comes up. This is when Christine reads a passage aloud and we have to write it down. When speaking French, you don't have to worry too much about any accents on words or agreements – masculine or feminine – but when writing it down, it matters!

Most sessions end with us being given 'devoirs' or homework. It may be reading or writing something. The morning is an hour and a half session that we all enjoy.

A couple of us have properties in France and spend holidays there – I don't – but I notice that those who do, pick up current slang and buzz words which get passed on. The group is 'très amicable' and we are looking forwards to meeting again once lockdown allows.

Salut!

Philippa Cutting

SPEED DATING

Karen gazed across the table and wondered why she had come. The man opposite (slicked back hair and fake tan) gazed back as though thinking the same. Speed dating. It was ridiculous. The only advantage was she didn't get stuck with an unsuitable match for any longer than a few minutes.

She suppressed a sigh as the next candidate took his place. Even sun from a bottle hadn't touched this one's face. Definitely indoorsy - pallid, with a nervous air about him. Artistic though, as their brief conversation and his long slim fingers revealed. Quite nice really, if you like that type.

The trouble was Karen didn't know what type she did like. Certainly no-one like Paul, her needy, all-consuming ex. 'I'll know him when I see him,' she'd told her friend, Lisa.

'You won't see him if you don't look,' Lisa had replied. Which was why she was here, in a room full of people looking for... What? Company? Love? A one-off date or a full-on relationship? Karen guessed everyone had their own reasons. As the next man settled into the recently vacated seat, she glanced round, wondering if she could leave. Better not.

The new arrival looked at her chest before looking at her face, then said, 'Hello, I think we'll get on like a house on fire.'

'That's all right,' she said. 'My fire extinguisher is pretty efficient.'

Which was true, and probably the reason Paul was ex instead of current. 'You could pour cold water on a guy dying from hypothermia,' he'd said when she failed to respond to his attempt to arouse her passion. Passion was something that Karen was sparing with, unless it involved animals or the environment.

Her words to the hopeful date opposite had certainly dampened his enthusiasm. He waffled on, trying to re-kindle it until, with a disappointed sigh, he moved on.

'You don't give anyone a chance,' Lisa told her that evening. 'You'll end up being on your own all your life.'

'I don't care,' she answered defiantly.

'What is it with you?' Lisa demanded. 'Paul worshipped you, but people can only take so much. They need a bit of encouragement.'

'He was all over me,' Karen told her. 'I felt suffocated.'

Suffocated, the air squeezed out of me like a balloon, she added silently. And balloons that are squeezed too tightly burst.

A few weeks later she sat again in the speed dating room anticipating the upcoming encounters. Despite her cynicism of the procedure, she recalled with a strange sense of pleasure how each candidate had eyed her with appreciation. Or perhaps it wasn't pleasure she felt. Perhaps it was power. She knew she was beautiful, that men liked her perfect complexion and lusted after her curvaceous body, and that pleased her. She wanted to be liked, loved and lusted over. But she didn't want to be owned.

She went through the proceedings with the same disdainful attitude as before, and as before she didn't accept anyone as a suitable match.

'Why do you go if you don't really want to meet someone?' Lisa asked after the fifth time she'd attended

the sessions. After the sixth time she said, 'I think you're

addicted to speed dating.'

'There are worse things to get addicted to,' Karen told her. 'I'll find what I want sooner or later.'

'Make it sooner,' Lisa said. 'You're not getting any younger. And there are match-making sites on the internet now. You can arrange a meeting without even leaving home.'

'No thanks,' Karen said, horrified at the thought of meeting a man she'd never seen before. 'People must be desperate to do that.'

'It's no worse than going on a blind date,' Lisa told her. 'And you could say the same about speed dating.'

'No you couldn't,' Karen argued. 'And I don't do anything else on Tuesday evenings.'

When Lisa introduced her to a friend of a friend in the pub one night, Karen felt her guard slipping. Gary was ruggedly handsome, quick-witted, and newly separated. The reason, Lisa informed her, was that he had his own business and spent too much time working. Karen didn't have much opportunity to talk to him and Lisa didn't know what business Gary ran. Karen put him out of her mind. She didn't want to get involved with a workaholic.

The following week she went on her speed dating event as normal, and as normal none of the potential matches suited her. She was just leaving when she saw a man she recognised coming in. It was Gary, Lisa's friend of a friend. Quickly she looked away. If he noticed her it could cause embarrassment. Surprised that he would be here, she slipped past him unnoticed and went home.

Later that week, when she was in the pub with Lisa and her boyfriend, she saw Gary with a group of people. He spotted her looking at him and waved. She smiled, the attraction she'd felt towards him still making itself felt. A little later he came over and handed her a drink.

'G&T, yes?' he asked, as if checking he'd remembered correctly. Karen nodded, and found herself slipping into a conversation she'd vowed not to have as soon as she'd seen him that night. What she knew about him made her wary. There must be something wrong with him. Why else would he engage in speed dating?

'Hypocrite', she chided herself, but the fact sat in front of her like a brick wall. Deciding to make the best of the situation, she chatted to him, telling him as much about herself as she wanted him to know. Speed dating was definitely not to be mentioned. She didn't want him thinking the same of her as she thought of him.

'So what sort of business are you in?' she asked eventually.

Gary hesitated, as though unsure what to say. 'Nothing mega,' he said at last. 'Well, not that mega, but it's getting quite popular. Actually, I run a speed dating company.'

Christine McHaines

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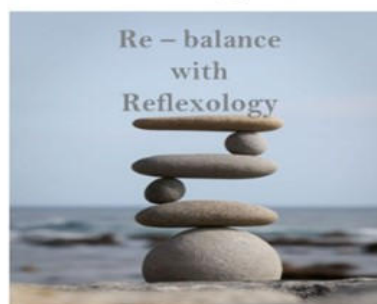
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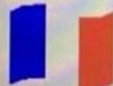
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MOTORCYCLING FEATURE.

(Cornwall's Fatal Accident Statistics Bring Some Uncomfortable Reading).

From Data provided by Cornwall Council Road Safety Officer and South West Peninsula Road Safety Partnership.

Accident Rates -- Cornwall -- Findings based on 441 fatal accidents:

108 involving motorcycles.

24% motorcyclist deaths in Cornwall – against a 20% national average (RoSPA) - but motorcyclists account for only 1% of road traffic.

The motorcyclist was most blameworthy in 76 of the 108 cases – 70%

The motorcyclist was partially to blame in another 11 cases – 81% wholly or partially to blame.

The mean age - 40yrs. 105 Male. 103 were local.

43 involved loss of control, 15 poor overtaking – accounting for 54% of the blameworthy accidents.

Of the 76 where the motorcyclist was primarily blameworthy:

Excess speed was a factor – 48%; Misjudgement 37%; Inexperience 16%; Helmets insecure/not worn 12%;

Riding in convoy 18%; Alcohol/drugs 17%; 95% of blameworthy motorcyclists were local and knew the road.

Of the 32 accidents where the motorcyclist was not blameworthy:

13- right turns across the motorcyclist path; 7- failure to give way from junction or layby; 2- pedestrians crossing into the motorcyclist path; 1- lane change in front of motorcyclist; 3-U-turn in front of motorcyclist.

Generally:

45% fatal motorcyclist accidents at weekend: 24% fatal motorcyclist accidents on a Sunday: 19% of motorcyclist fatalities from another road user failing to give way; 17% motorcyclist fatalities when riding in convoy; 70% of blameworthy motorcyclists were riding 'Sport' bikes of 500 -1000cc.

So-

How can the safety of Motorcyclists on the road be improved?

This is not a commercial advertisement. This is me, Derek Preece. I'm local living in St Sulien, Luxulyan. I'm doing my bit with others trying to promote safer riding based on what I have experienced. I hit my lamp-post in my youth - but survived. When I got back to motorcycling later in life what I saw on the roads was not good – it was dangerous! I took advice and qualified as an Advanced Motorcyclist. It was brilliant and one of the best decisions I have made. I qualified with **Cornwall Advanced Motorcyclists (CAM)** and I will be eternally grateful to them. I was so impressed I further qualified as an **Institute of Motor Industries (IMI) Observer** and now help to train new Advanced Riders.

Training to ride with a safe system of control really helps to keep riders safe when out on the road.

Cornwall Advanced Motorcyclists (CAM) is a Club and a non-profit making Charity.

IMI Observers are all Volunteers who give their time and efforts freely.

CAM's primary role is to help put safer riders on the road. The new liaison with Cornwall Council as an approved supplier of road safety courses, and working with South West Peninsular Road Safety Partnership is acknowledgement of the work they do. CAM delivers IAM RoadSmart Road Safety training for Cornwall motorcyclists in Association with the Institute of Advanced Motoring (IAM).

Now-

If you're not a motorcyclist but know one – please let them know – and thank you.

If you are a motorcyclist then look at the Free Rider Assessment Poster and if you're interested – go for it! - Visit the website at www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/cornwalliam and make contact.

Cornwall Council has granted funds to **Cornwall Advanced Motorcyclists (CAM)** who in turn has decided to use those funds to subsidise the training. The course cost of £150 includes 1 year CAM and IAM membership, all training, and the Test fee. At present if you complete the training £75 will be returned to you.

Advanced Rider Courses are for everyone of all ages (legal requirements permitting).

It takes commitment – but based on my experience it's invaluable and it's a lifesaver.

Kind regards.
Stay safe.

Derek Preece

A WILD CORNISH VALLEY

The Friends of Luxulyan Valley have been meeting by Zoom over lockdown. In January Pete McMurdie presented his excellent film: "A Wild Cornish Valley". This was a labour of love, which took him 10 years to complete. Pete is a Friend of Kilminorth Wood and his local patch is the West Looe Valley.

Some technical difficulties with the sound meant that we could watch the very beginning twice: Starting on the shore, we saw turnstones, improbably turning stones very much heavier than the actual bird. Just beyond the harbour lies Looe Island, a nature reserve, well worth a visit when this lockdown is over. Close ups of nesting cormorants showed them opening their mouths and vibrating their throats, which enables them to keep cool. A solitary shag on the cliffs was useful to see the difference between the two birds. The shag was smaller, yellow round the beak with an upturned head crest, whereas the cormorant had a little yellow round the beak but a white throat.

The film then moved upriver: this is an area of sessile oak ancient woodland, rich in bluebells and spring flowers, attracting bees, hoverflies, beetles and butterflies. Pete used to entice badgers from their setts with peanuts and got excellent footage of them, both day and night. He also managed to film them underground. When the badger cull started, Pete stopped feeding them as he was worried that their lack of fear would render them more vulnerable. It turns out that foxes like peanuts too, as well as the odd rabbit. Roe deer feed on the fine grasses of the saltmarshes on the tidal river.

I am left with memories of woodpeckers feeding their young, and kingfishers catching fish in the brackish water. There was even footage of the vagrant green heron from Central America. The last visitor ended up shot and stuffed in 1889 and can be seen in the Royal Cornwall Museum in Truro.

If you get a chance to see this film, it is highly recommended and you can buy a copy from Pete's website: www.petermcmurdie.co.uk.

Joan Farmer

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ENVIRONMENT COLUMN

Spring has arrived! How can we help our wildlife thrive this spring?
Ten top tips!

1. Plant a range of different flower and shrub types for butterflies, bees and insects.
2. Build a bug hotel (lots of ideas on pinterest!).
3. Build a pond (but make sure hedgehogs can climb out on a ramp!) with lots of marginal plants.
4. Build and site bird and bat boxes (not for this year but for next!).
5. Feed the birds all year round (but don't leave whole peanuts out as fledglings cannot digest them!).
Please leave fresh water out for drinking and bathing. Please remember that bread is not nutritional for any wildlife and may attract rats!
6. Build and site hedgehog boxes ready for the autumn.
7. Leave a gap in your fence for hedgehogs to travel through and encourage your neighbour to do the same (and please do not use slug pellets if you want to encourage hedgehogs – slugs are their source of food!).
8. Leave an area of long grass for insects to live in and you may be surprised what wildflowers you may attract.
9. Sow an area of wildflowers using native seed (take care that online sources are not from China!).
10. Leave a log pile for amphibians and other small creatures to live in.



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LANLIVERY OVER SIXTIES

The last time we met was over a year ago, on March 12th.

I see from my notes on that day that it hailed. Let's hope that when we meet again, the weather will be balmy! This could be in May, or maybe June. Anyway, the details remain the same, meet at 12 noon in The Crown Inn for a friendly and delicious lunch. It will be great to see each other again.

Please give me a ring for further details on 01208 871035

Pam Bruce

FROM CHURCH



From the Rector's desk,

In January, this year it was my great pleasure to welcome Luci Isaacson, the then diocesan environmental officer, to speak at our environmental

Sunday service. You can watch the whole service again on the benefice Facebook page. I also said that I would try to publish Luci's answers in future editions of the Bridge and Granite Towers.

I include here the first of Luci's responses to the effects of human agency on the planet and global warming in particular.

I asked Luci if she thought there was a connection between the outbreak of Coronavirus and human stewardship of the earth.

"We are tapping deeper into nature, striving to build houses and feed the masses, and this has happened so many times before. William Ruddiman says 8000 years ago plague caused depopulation and deforestation, which contributed to a cooler climate, although some (Lamb) think cooler climates e.g., the Little Ice Age (Frost fairs on the Thames, Eskimos kayaking to Scotland because of extended ice pack, Crete with hot winters) caused famine, depopulation and disease. Whichever camp you are in, we make an impact. Glaciers hold stories of deep time, providing temperature records and climate information. For example, many of our saints came here in the 6th century, making a brave and exciting journey, but actually –it was a bit of a miracle. At that time dreadful plague, famine and volcanic dust had wreaked havoc with their lives. Agriculture stopped, cities collapsed, as 5-10000 people died every day. To read more and to realise how we impact see <https://climatevision.co.uk/considering-the-climate-for-the-saints/>

Pledge 2 of the Connecting Me with Climate Change (a copy of which should be available in every church) will help you understand how agricultural practices had to adapt to the climate and loss of land in the past and is top of the agenda today, thanks to a great 25 Year Plan and Environment Bill coming soon (of course things can always be better, but why not get behind what we have)?

Pledge 3, I recommend some nice bedtime reading: "Plows, Plagues, and Petroleum: How Humans Took Control of Climate" by [William F. Ruddiman](#). It's an excellent read for any level, by a genuinely great man"

On the issue of global warming, I asked Luci if she agreed with NASA's latest prediction that 2020

was the 'hottest year on record', prompting Dr Paul Johnston, founder of the Greenpeace Research Laboratories, to state, 'If we fail to keep global warming from rising above 1.5 degrees Celsius as per the Paris Agreement, the world will cease to exist as we know it!'

"YES! We have already ceased to exist as we knew it! While we were in the first lockdown, at the end of April, 1,470 households were still displaced from their homes as a result of the February 2020 flooding. We also are quite clear it will change, but so are we planning to – it's just whether everyone else gets into it and helps, or just waits for someone else to do it, or legislation. Why are those able still waiting for that?"

Finally, for this edition, I asked Luci what people should be doing to mitigate against global warming.

"Understand it first, talk about it second – imperative. I do not believe we will get anywhere unless people take personal time to sit down and consider the radical change that needs to happen to clear up the radical mess WE have made. We have to look at ourselves and ask, 'Why haven't I got an electric car – charging it from the sun'? and really think about those responses? Of course, some can't, but many can that haven't yet.

Let's be kind to ourselves, it's like asbestos, fags, Richard Trevithick's ground-breaking industrial revolution- we didn't know. We do know this – but we also know it needs quick attention from every single one of us, and for leaders to show by personal action today.

The climate has flipped in the past as quickly as within a decade – do we want to be part of making that history again? No.

Pledge 1 So, the biggest deal is – where do you buy your electricity from? It needs to be 100% renewable now.

If you have taken the time to understand it first, you will know what this means. Many don't - Fact. So, if you have done it, thank you, but PLEASE can you carefully and kindly explain to someone else? Around three double decker busloads of emissions are going into the atmosphere every year if your home is still buying from fossil fuels. That is exacerbating flooding – remember those locals who weep when it rains - 10 years ago, last month even. Time for action and to respect others!"

Next month I'll be asking Luci about water, deforestation, and medieval churches!

Your friend
Revd. Paul

FROM CHAPEL

NEWS FROM GUNWEN



To minimise the risks from the pandemic all Methodist Chapels in Cornwall were closed at the start of the lockdown that commenced in January.

If the Government restrictions are eased on schedule it is hoped that the Chapel will be able to resume some services in a few months' time. For an update on when services will be able to resume, please phone Ivan Phillips on 07812 454665 or 07852 907408. Ivan will also be able to provide details of any required 'COVID-19 Secure' procedures when services restart.

services restart.

Information is available at the Methodist Church website - www.methodist.org.uk, which includes weekly worship and prayer resources, and also at the St Austell Methodist Circuit website - www.staustellmethodist.co.uk.

The vaccination programme has brought hope that things will slowly improve, and that we will soon be able to return to our much loved Chapel.

Patrick Reynolds

* * * * *

'POEMS, PIETY AND PSYCHE'

In October 2020 I was fortunate in having my anthology of post-modern, progressive Christian poems, '*Poems, Piety and Psyche*', published in the US. Although completed during the Covid19 pandemic, this collection of 130 poems has been a long time in the writing and is my attempt to try to stem the decline in congregations which I have seen at first hand during my nearly forty years as a country parson. Few people would deny there is a crisis facing Christianity, as numbers of clergy, finances and church goers are all in decline, and have been since the war. Sadly, year after year, national diocesan statistics reveal this drop, which, if they continue at the same rate, will empty the churches of congregations in 2067, ending a run of 533 years as the established church, the *Ecclesia Anglicana*, The Church of England, now faces the task of reforming itself, following the impact of the pandemic on its congregations and finances and saving itself for future generations.

My poetry is designed to revitalize the church and reshape its future for current congregations, and the missing generation of young people, scientifically literate, who are exiled from the church through its inability to absorb contemporary teaching of biblical criticism, the reality of evolution, the false idea of a God "up there in the clouds looking down", and an institutional insistence on an unconvincing supernatural theology. We know that many young people find it hard to accept traditional teaching, which for them is unbelievable, and many churchgoers from my past parishes have also told me how they also struggle with belief in some concepts, whilst staying faithful to the church. My poems offer a different way of looking at theology, which enables spiritual searchers to maintain their faith without throwing Jesus out with the bathwater of discarded doctrine. My school assembly mantra to the children was always, "Don't ask, 'Did it happen?', ask 'What does it mean?'" If we are unable to offer a new way of looking at and understanding our faith, then all the changes coming in church organisation and administration will simply be an exercise in rearranging the deckchairs on an ecclesiastical Titanic.

My poems try to reclaim the original gospel message, remembering that the writers were writing theology and not history, and enable continued belief in the essentials of Christianity, Bible, God and Jesus, but in a way that all clergy are charged with at their induction, "to teach the gospel afresh to each generation". Having retired from Winchester diocese to live in Meonstoke, I currently work as a couples psychotherapist, my original profession, and I have put together a performance poetry show, also entitled '*Poems, Piety and Psyche*', which combines my three main interests: poetry, spirituality and the human mind. Like my poetry, it explores the changing face of the church with a positive message of hope for the future. A future of love, for which our suffering world is in desperate need. I was delighted to have some Lanlivery friends attend my recent webinar on my book

David Keighley

Endorsements from '*Poems, Piety and Psyche*'

"David Keighley probes beneath the surface of our faith and provides us with a basis for believing. So long as we have people like David, Christianity will live and renew itself."

Bishop John Shelby Spong, former Bishop of Newark and author of "Why Christianity Must Change or Die"

"This volume of poetry is a true treasure. Poems are words so twisted and so pressed that they express the matter more densely and subtly than if they were left to their own devices. Poetry is always greater than the sum of its parts. David Keighley's poems have a beauty and sincerity about them that sound the depths, soothe the soul, and touch the heavens."

Professor Martyn Percy, Dean of Christ Church, University of Oxford, and author of "Power and the Church"

"David Keighley's word grenades - they aren't quite verses - provoke and prod: What's God? These gobbets of questing doubt are a lot more interesting than any virtual mass from an archbishop's kitchen."

Quentin Letts, 'Times' journalist, writer, critic and broadcaster and author of "50 People Who Bugged Up Britain"

Poems, Piety and Psyche is available from www.davidkeighleywriter.com or Amazon

Lanlivery Church News and Services

Lanlivery Services

Please note that the planned services may have to change due to the pandemic. Worship will be available online via the Benefice of the Lostwithiel Parishes Facebook page and on YouTube. Please check pew notes, social media and the notice boards, particularly if you wish to join in services for Holy Week. Sadly, again, we will not be able to hold our Good Friday Pilgrimage to Helman Tor this year.

April 2021

4th, Easter Day
9.30 Eucharist

11th, Easter 2
9.30 Eucharist

18th, Easter 3
9.30 Morning Prayer

25th, Easter 4
9.30 Eucharist

May 2021

2nd, Easter 5
9.30 Morning Prayer

9th, Feast Sunday
5.30 Well Dressing
6.00 Evening Prayer

16th, Easter 7
9.30 Morning Prayer

23rd, Pentecost
9.30 Eucharist

30th, Trinity
10.30 Benefice Eucharist (Location to be advised)

Improvements to Church

Work has started to firstly instal the lavatory. The septic tank will be at the very bottom of the newest churchyard with the outlet pipe leading from the toilet in the boiler house down the path through the middle churchyard. Other work will erect a screen in the arch to the north transept creating a separate meeting room; there will also be a much-improved kitchen. Church services will continue as usual but please bear with us while the work is in progress.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR LANLIVERY CHURCH

www.lanliverychurch.org.uk
lanlivery@gmail.com

Rector: The Revd Paul Beynon,
The Rectory
Springfield Close,
Lostwithiel
01208 623577
p-beynon@sky.com

Associate Priest: Revd Sheila Bawden

Churchwardens

Tim Turner: 01208 872165
Ellen McConnell: 01208 872981
ellen.mcconnell@hotmail.co.uk

Church Office:

01208 872232
church_centre@yahoo.co.uk

YEARS' MIND

(Recalling the passing of the following parishioners):

Apr	May
Gilbert Bersey May	Terence Albert Bonney
Peter John Lyons	Gwendolen Oenone Jane Richardson
Trevor Eric Tabb	
Carl Langmaid	
Loveday Mary Kellow	
Elizabeth Cameron Cropp	
Gladys Mary Hands	

A FAITH-FILLED SPRING

I always find the prospect of spring a cause for celebration: the end of the cold, barren landscape of skeletal trees and gardens awash with mud and puddles replaced by a light wash of green as leaves start to form, the emerging spring flowers signalling that glorious spring festival of colour to our waterlogged gardens. I always imagine that just as we have that frisson of excitement as we await that wonderful burst of new life, that God too must have looked at His Creation on that restful seventh day and sighed at the beauty of it all.

'You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly. The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with corn, for so you have ordained it. You drench its furrows and level its ridges; you soften it with showers and bless its crops. You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow the abundance' - Psalm 65: 9-11

One can only hope that we may be able to celebrate Easter together to cry as one, 'Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!' We can only pray for a good vaccine outcome and an amazing outpouring of God's benevolence and healing on our nation. (Continued on next page)

LUXULYAN CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

PRAYER WALKS

Start at the church porch at 9.30 am. Next dates:

14 April 2021 and 12 May 2021

If you have any specific prayer requests, please contact a church warden who will pass the message to the Prayer Walk team. We are hoping that restrictions will allow us to go out and physically walk our parish rather than virtually!

Shelley

* * * * *

Contact Details

Website:

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2490/

Priest:

Rev. Jules Williams 01726 76282
revjules@btinternet.com
(Day off normally Friday)

Churchwardens:

Robin Burley 01208 831145
rabkol@aol.com

Jim Cleare 01726 850553
Jim.cleare@btinternet.com

Luxulyan Church Services

For the time being we are holding live services on Zoom. Keep an eye on the website and Facebook for updates!

Friday 2nd April

10 am Good Friday Reflections (zoom) Shelley Porter

Sunday 4th April

11 am Easter Sunday (zoom) Rev Jules Williams

Sunday 11th April

11 am Parish Praise (zoom) TBA

Sunday 18th April

11 am Parish Praise Rev Jules Williams

Sunday 25th April

11 am Parish Praise Local Worship Leaders

Sunday 2nd May

11 am Sunday Worship Rev Jules Williams

Sunday 9th May

11 am Sunday Worship TBA

Sunday 16th May

11 am Sunday Worship Rev Jules Williams

Sunday 23rd May

11 am Parish Praise Local Worship Leaders

Sunday 30th May

11 am Combined Service

St Austell Food Bank – helping local people in crisis

We are happy to receive donations for the food bank at any time. Don't forget to include toiletries as well as staples such as tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit, soups, and treats (chocolates etc). Toilet rolls also very welcome!

These can be left in the marked box in the church porch.

* * * * *

(Continued from page 24)

As Jesus stated in Matthew 19:26 - 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'

Until then we can take sanctuary in our natural environment; the sights and scents always calm and enrich the spirit. We are so lucky in Cornwall, we have such an array of nature's gifts, the incredible coastline, the shelter of our woodland areas and the wondrous patchwork of fields and Cornish hedges. We can savour all the blessings bestowed on us by our Creator and acknowledge our part as guardians of this planet to protect and nurture every element of it.

'God saw all that he had made, and it was very good'. - Genesis 1:31

One of my favourite memories as a child was walking the hedgerows searching for primroses and bluebells to gather together into a loving bundle, tie with a long leaf and present it to my Mum. They never lasted long, but this act of love would linger long in our relationship.

We have this same loving relationship with Jesus, who offers up His own acts of loving-kindness: the longed-for child, the answer to heartfelt prayer, or a sudden and unexpected change of heart. We are so lucky to have such a good, good Father who wants nothing more than to ease our burden and protect us from harm.

'Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!' - Matthew 6:9-11

Elizabeth Barrett Browning wrote a poem called 'Aurora Leigh' and in it, she wrote:

'Earth's crammed with heaven, and every common bush afire with God, but only he who sees takes off his shoes'.

Marie Liddicoat

COUNTRY DIARY



14th JANUARY 2021
Whilst walking along Bullfinch Lane I discover a fragment of fallen lichen, glaucous-green and beautiful on its bed of wet, dark rotting sycamore leaves.



15th JANUARY
At last, a dry day but with very little sunshine. The five starlings are now quite vocal, whistling, squawking and squabbling; a sound of winter that has been absent here for several years.

16th JANUARY
A grey squirrel has recently learned to feed on suet from the coconut shell by holding it with his forepaws while he eats voraciously.



17th. JANUARY Neighbour Brian B tells of a kestrel in his garden at ten o' clock this morning.

25th JANUARY

A sharp frost this morning and, once again, I take thick ice off the bird drinkers and replace with

fresh water. A collared dove calls on the wire outside the bedroom window before sunrise each morning.



29th JANUARY
At four o' clock this afternoon I hear the first chaffinch song of the year from his perch on the large ash at the edge of Rowan Bank,

1st FEBRUARY

Another rainy day. The hazel in the front garden is hung with sulphur-yellow catkins.

5th FEBRUARY Neighbours Brian and Bren report some frogs' spawn in their ponds. I search our six ponds for some, but sadly I find none. Villager Clive sees a woodcock flying over his field.

8th FEBRUARY



A gorse bush atop the tip is clothed in golden blossom. It creates a pleasing image against the cold blue sky as it is buffeted by the icy east wind. Down in

the shelter of the garden I see that the ivy by the coal house is laden with clusters of ripe black berries.

12th FEBRUARY

The wind still rages but there is no frost today.

1st Call Septic Tanks

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COUNTRY DIARY



At 11-50 am a female blackcap arrives at the seed tray and feeds with confidence.
15th FEBRUARY
A male blackcap arrives to sample the fat balls.

18th FEBRUARY

Dry and sunny. A goldcrest appears briefly on a branch outside the kitchen window.

19th FEBRUARY



Along the margins of the sodden streamside path, I pause to examine a patch of lime green common fern moss and to touch its wet,

feathery, fronds. Here is an oasis of vibrant colour in an otherwise monochrome landscape.

20th FEBRUARY

The rain continues relentlessly as winter lingers on. Only two starlings visit today, but not frequently.

22nd FEBRUARY

Early this morning I watch a male blackbird feasting on the ivy berries near the garage. In late afternoon I hear the first true blackbird song of the year and recognise familiar phrases from previous years.

24th FEBRUARY

Camellia 'Freedom Bell' is in bloom. An early honeybee is imbibing nectar amongst the open petals. Soon after as I approach Pond One, a bumblebee, buzzing loudly, narrowly misses my head as we meet on the pathway. This will be a queen, newly out of hibernation seeking a nest site. All the 'winter sleepers' in the garden will now be waking.

27th FEBRUARY

We put up three dormouse nest boxes in the 'Grove' - a secluded area near the hazel corridor, close to the large hazel tree which produces an abundant crop of nuts each autumn. The stripped honeysuckle stems along nearby Bullfinch Lane show evidence of dormouse activity in this area of the garden.

2nd MARCH

At about 1.35pm I spot a male siskin on the seed dispenser. He is soon joined by another male and also a female.

5th MARCH

The village reverberates with the sound of two great spotted woodpeckers 'drumming' their territorial signals across the gardens.

7th APRIL 1991

Along Bullfinch Lane the west wind rushes to meet me laden with the perfume of the primroses that grow on the damp, mossy banks. A robin sings in the hawthorn above me. A moment in time that, all too soon, will become a sweet memory.



13th MAY 1996

Midday in the garden the whispering song of the willow warbler blends with the chattering of the swallows as they hawk over Pond One: the welcome sounds of early summer.

Kathryn Hill



CHURCH HUMOUR



Bereavement in Cornwall during COVID-19

Visit our website for a list of charities and services able to offer support to those bereaved, from any cause and of any age

www.cornwallbereavementnetwork.org



Bereavement services in Cornwall have come together with the aim of making it easier for those who have experienced the death of a loved one to find support

If you would prefer to speak to someone about where to find the right emotional support for you then please call

01726 829874 10am - 6pm Monday to Sunday

One of the team from Cornwall Hospice Care will help to put you on touch with the right support for you

If you need support with the process and practicalities that you are having to cope with following a bereavement, then please call

01872 252713 9am - 4pm Monday to Friday



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The Veterinary Centre
8 Kings Avenue,
St. Austell
Tel. 01726 68177

A GUIDE TO THE DEADLINE DATES FOR COPY FOR THIS MAGAZINE

Deadline dates are generally the **10th of the month preceding publication of the edition.**

Editions are April/May; June/July; August/September; October/November; December/January; February/March;
THUS:

May 10 for JUNE/JULY edition
July 10 for AUG/SEPT edition
Sept 10 for OCT/NOV edition
Nov 10 for DEC /JAN edition
Jan 10 for FEB/MAR edition
Mar 10 for APRIL/MAY edition

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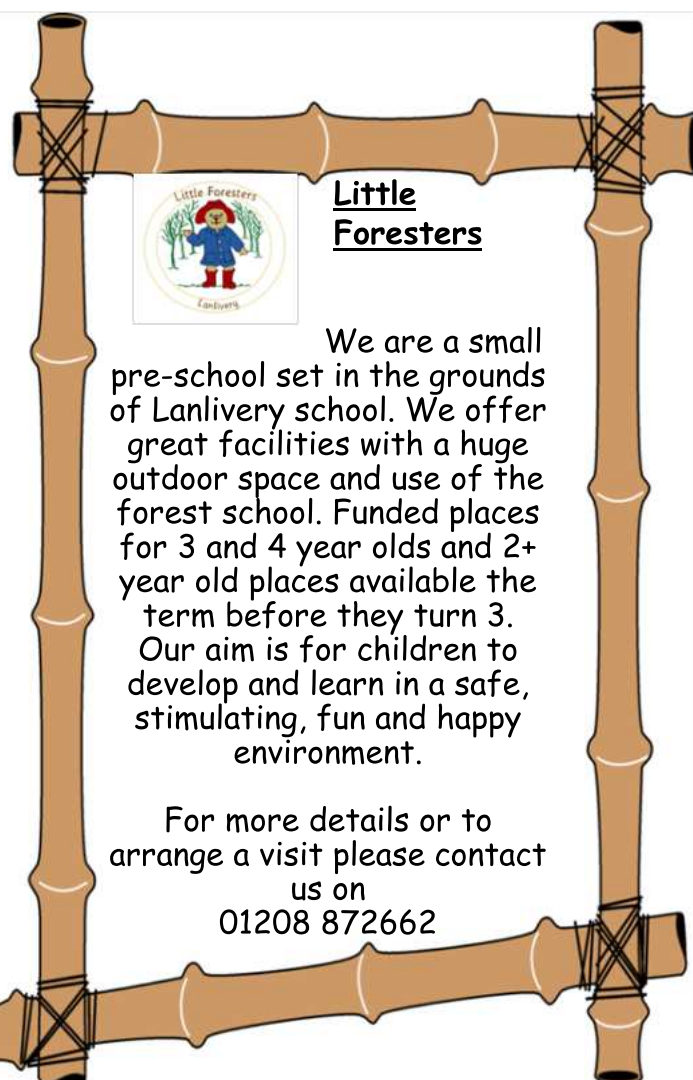
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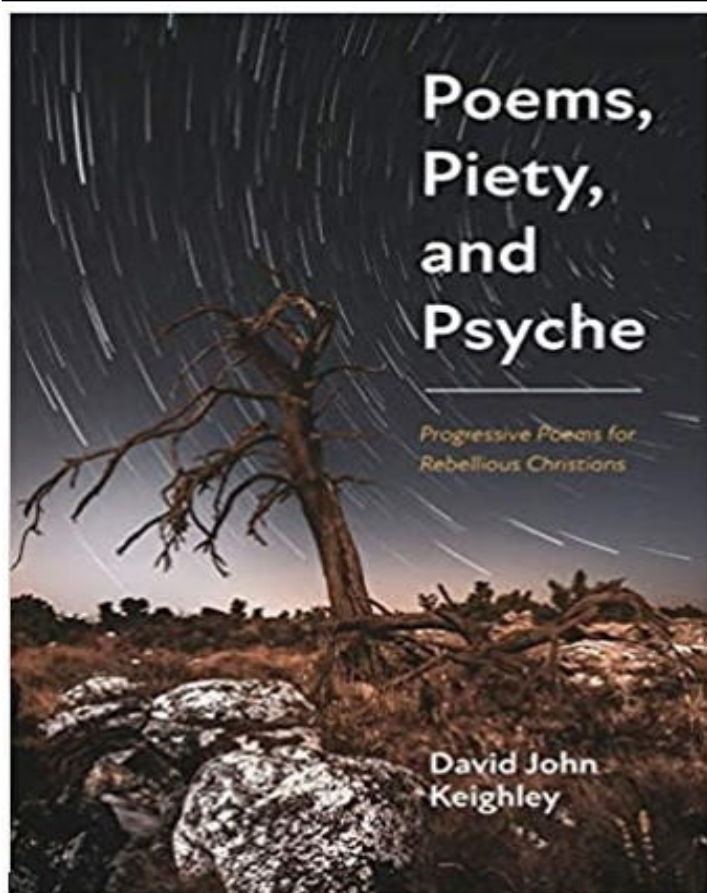
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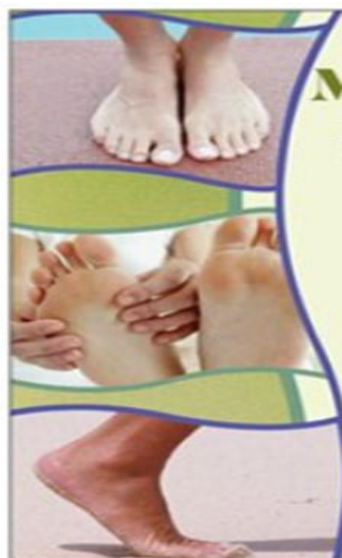
Confronting the crisis facing Christianity, this anthology of post-modern, progressive Christian poems, with a rebellious tone, demythologizes Christian theology. *Poems, Piety and Psyche* is a brave departure from literal Christian dogma and challenges the outdated ideas of doctrine and Scripture to disclose hidden truths still valid today. This volume is an attempt to revitalize the church and reshape its future for current congregations and the missing generation of young people, scientifically literate, who are exiled from the church through its inability to absorb contemporary teaching of biblical criticism, the reality of evolution, the false idea of a God "up there", and an institutional insistence on an unconvincing supernatural theology. Christianity must be adapted to incorporate these and change, or it will die.

David Keighley reclaims the original gospel message and takes us on a turbulent and challenging journey to the heart of what it is to be truly Christian. There is in these poems an emphasis on the teaching of the historical Jesus while rejecting nature miracles, the virgin birth, and bodily resurrection. Jesus's divinity is that we can see God in him in the same way as we see God in the lives of each other, if we look closely enough.

"David Keighley probes beneath the surface of our faith and provides us with a basis for believing. So long as we have people like David, Christianity will live and renew itself."

Bishop John Shelby Spong, former Bishop of Newark
Author of "Why Christianity Must Change or Die"

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Dates for your Diary

APRIL

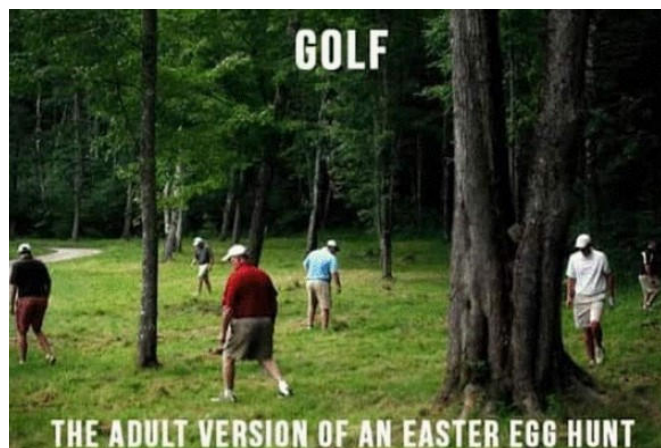
Sun 4	Easter Service	Lanlivery Church	9.30 am
Sun 4	Easter Service	Luxulyan Church (Zoom)	11 am
Wed 21	FOLV Films	Zoom	7.30 pm

MAY

Wed 5	Luxulyan Over 50s	The King's Arms	12 noon
Thur 6	Council Elections	Luxulyan	
Sun 9	Feast Sunday Well Dressing	Lanlivery	5.30 pm
Sun 9	Feast Evening Prayer	Luxulyan Church	6 pm
Mon 10	DEADLINE FOR	GRANITE	TOWERS
Thur 13	Lanlivery Over 60s	The Crown Inn	12 noon
Wed 19	Luxulyan Over 50s	The King's Arms	12 noon
Thur 20	Keep Fit	Luxulyan Village Hall	9 am
Sat 22	FOLV Wildflower Walk	Meet Black Hill Car Park	2 pm
Thur 27	Keep Fit	Luxulyan Village Hall	9 am

ADVANCE NOTICE
LUXULYAN FEAST WEEK 13—19 JUNE
CARNIVAL 26 JUNE

ALL EVENTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS!



LUXULYAN MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

To book the Institute Committee Room, or for any other queries, contact:

Mrs Christine Wilson – 01208 831283 –
clerk@luxulyanpc.co.uk

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Linda Belcher, 15 Beswetherick Fields, Luxulyan,
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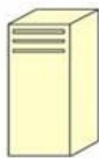
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- Theatre
- Corporate Events
- University End of Year Ball
- Sound Reinforcement for Bands and Singers
- PA Installation, both temporary and permanent, indoor and out.

From a week long show to one night only. A tailor made package to suit your requirements and budget.

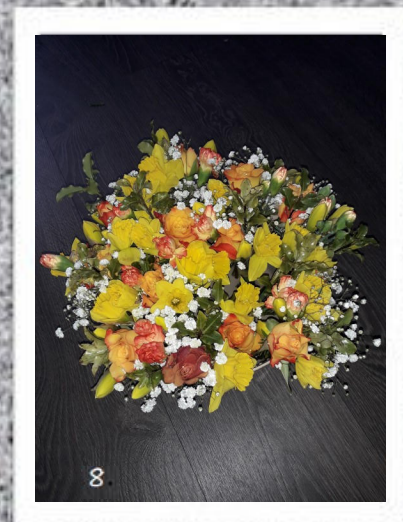
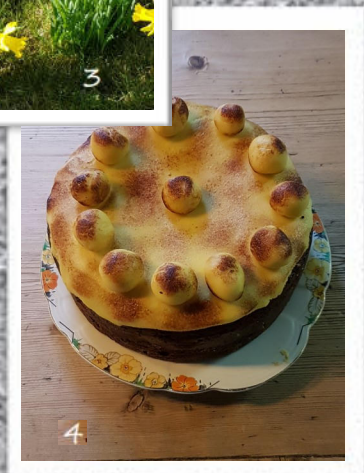
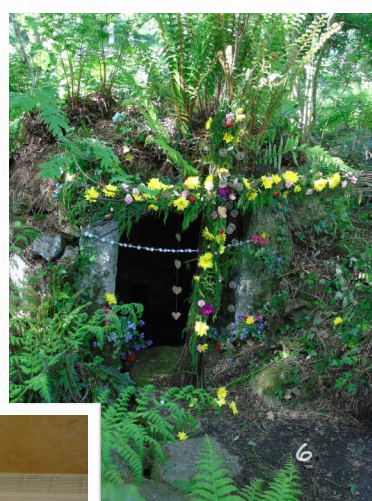
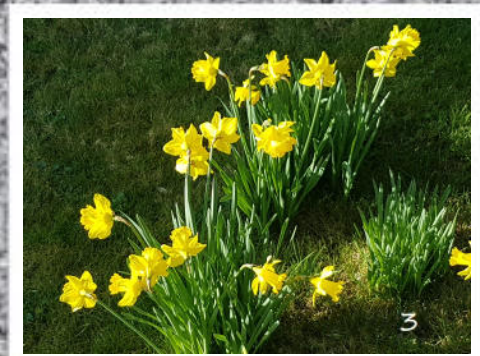
If required a fully trained, professional and courteous engineer can also be supplied with the equipment to operate and look after it during your show, so your show can look and sound the best it can.

So for your next event just get in contact!



Phone: 01726 851120

Email: Alan@AWPComputer.co.uk



Front cover: New born lambs - Cassy Gadsby

1. Icy at Bridges - oops!

2. W.I. winter walk

3&4 Mothering Sunday at Trethevey - Kay Roberts

5. Good Friday 2019

6&7 Lanlivery Feast
2019

8. Mothering Sunday flowers at
Luxulyan - Katrina Rundle